DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 090 931 IR 000 540

TITLE	Meeting the Challenge: Long Range Program for Library Development in Illinois, 1973-1978. A Report on Progress with Some Plans for the Future.
INSTITUTION	Illinois State Library, Springfield.
PUB DATE	74
NOTE	25p.; For related document see ED 070 476
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.75 HC-$1.85 PLUS POSTAGE
DESCRIPTORS	Evaluation; *Library Planning; *Library Programs; *Library Services; *State Programs
IDENTIFIERS	*Illinois; Library Services and Construction Act; LSCA

ABSTRACT

A previous document, with a similar title for 1972-77 (ED 070 476), set out long range goals for statewide development of Illinois libraries. According to the present report, progress has been made toward: increasing the number of local libraries and population served; increasing income and expenditures for libraries; augmenting media collections; expanding systems and networks; enhancing cooperation between school and public libraries; updating and enlarging physical facilities; improving service to the culturally and economically disadvantaged, prisoners, the blind, and the physically handicapped; and increasing use of the central technical processing operation. Some objectives were modified, notably in relation to networks, in which new concepts in multitype library cooperation are being explored. (LS)

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ED 090931

MEETING THE CHALLENGE: LONG RANGE PROGRAM FOR LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT IN ILLINOIS 1973-1978

A REPORT ON PROGRESS WITH SOME PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Since the submission on June 30, 1972, of Meeting the Challenge: Illinois State Library's Long Range Program for Library Development in Illinois 1972-1977, to the United States Office of Education, and its official publication in the November 1972 issue of Illinois Libraries, certain marks of progress have been noted, and some changes have occurred in the character of library service in the state. Additional information about library service has been gained from the evaluation of completed projects, the observation of ongoing projects, and by other means.

The Illinois State Library plays a dual role in library development in the state. It is one of twenty-two divisions in the Office of the Secretary of State, who is, by law, designated the State Librarian. The director of the State Library is the title given to the professional librarian who is responsible for the activities of the State Library. The State Library has certain responsibilities and mandates for service.

The Illinois State Library serves as a special library for state government. The policy of Illinois as stated in Chapter 128, Illinois Revised Statutes is, "to promote, support, implement, and maintain library service on a state level for all State Offices, Offices, the General Assembly, the Judiciary and all state agencies, bodies, and commissions, and to promote, support, and implement library services on a statewide basis. It is the responsibility of government at all levels to promote, support, implement, and maintain library services for the cultural, educational, and economic development of the State of Illinois and of the inhabitants of the State of Illinois".

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In addition to its function as a special library to the state government, the Illinois State Library, as provided in Chapter 128, Illinois Revised Statutes, is responsible for the promotion and development of cooperative library networks operating regionally or statewide and for providing effective coordination of the library resources of the public, academic, school, and special libraries, and for the promotion and development of information centers for improved supplemental library services for special library clientele served by each type of library or center. It has the authority to administer grants of federal library funds, interstate library compacts, and to act as a Research and Reference Center to the library systems.

In its role as the agency responsible for the development of library services in the state, the State Library assists local libraries in their plan of cooperation for better library services in their communities, and through the library systems aids in furnishing books and other library materials to them. It also assists local groups and library systems in developing a program for the provision of library services to areas without library service. It acts as a supplementary source through the state funded library systems for reading materials unavailable in the local libraries. It acts as a clearinghouse, in an advisory capacity, for questions and problems pertaining to the administration and function of public and school libraries in Illinois and publishes booklets and pamphlets to implement this service.

The Illinois State Library has the responsibility to seek the opinion of the Attorney General for legal questions pertaining to the public libraries and their function as governmental agencies and to contract with any other library or library agency to carry out the purposes of the State Library. It collects, compiles, preserves, and publishes public library statistical information and has the obligation to compile and publish the annual report of local public libraries and library systems which are required by law to be submitted. (Chapter 81, Sections 4-10 and 1004-12, Illinois Revised Statutes.)

It conducts and arranges for library training programs for library personnel, library directors, and others involved in library service, and it makes and publishes an annual report for each fiscal year.

Certain objectives of the Illinois State Library are thus specified in the Illinois Revised Statutes. The projects and programs described in Meeting the Challenge, the Long-Range Program for Library Development in Illinois, are developed to contribute to the achievement of the following objectives:

The promotion and development of cooperative library networks operating regionally or statewide to provide effective coordination of library resources of public, academic, school, and special libraries.

The promotion, support, implementation of library services on a statewide basis for the cultural, educational, and economic development of the state and the inhabitants of the state.

The promotion, support, implementation, and maintenance of library services on a state level for all state officers, offices, the General Assembly, the Judiciary, and all state agencies, bodies, and commissions.

The goal of the Illinois State Library is "the assured provision of excellent library service for all the residents of the state so that the need for cultural, educational, informational, and recreational resources can be met, and the governmental and economic development of the state can be fostered." As a long-range goal which will require many years to accomplish, certain subgoals and objectives set forth in the long range plan are designed to move library service in the state closer to the accomplishment of the goal. Although many objectives are yet to be achieved, progress in certain areas requires that a report be made and further plans developed; hence, this update and revision of the long-range program.

Additional information for the revision of the long range program and the development of future plans has been sought in diverse ways. On September 13, 1972, the plan was presented to the Executive Board of the Illinois Library Trustee Association meeting in Springfield for comments and questions. At the annual

conference of the Illinois Library Association in Chicago, on October 12, 1972, an open meeting was held, at which the staff of the Illinois State Library presented the long-range program to an audience of approximately two hundred and received comments and suggestions from the group in attendance.

During February, March and April 1973, hearings were held in each of seventeen library systems to learn from library users what they wanted from libraries and what they thought could be done to make their libraries serve them more fully. The ideas expressed at each of these hearings have been presented to the library system boards, and the opinions of these boards on the ideas expressed by their users were heard as well as the board's own ideas for improving library service in their area. A summary of the library user hearings has been discussed with the Library System Presidents and Directors, the Advisory Subcommittees of the Illinois State Library Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee itself. A summary of the user hearings is found in Appendix A.

ILLINOIS LIBRARIES IN 1973*

Since the 1970 Federal Census, 89 special censuses have substantiated a revised total population of 11,190,029. With changes in library service indicated below, the revised unserved population is 2,000,000.

During the year ending June 30, 1973, no changes have become effective in the legal status, funding, or government of libraries in Illinois. Several pieces of legislation of importance to libraries were passed by the General Assembly. Among these are a revision of the Township Act (SB 163) which would require township library directors to be elected every four years for a four-year term, and bills authorizing increased funding for library systems (SB 613) and the appropriation (SB 614, HR 954) for this purpose. The passage of House Resolution 456 requires that the House Revenue Committee complete a study of the financial structure of public libraries by February 1, 1974, including alternative means to the property tax method of financing local public libraries.

* Refer to Illinois Libraries, November 1972, pp. 739-745.

LOCAL LIBRARIES

Increase in number of libraries

In fiscal year 1973, the number of public libraries in the state has increased by 18, making the present total number of libraries 528. In addition, seven libraries converted from their former form to district libraries and one endowed library became a tax supported township library. Library organization in 1973 is indicated by the following table:

Table I

County	2
Town	5
District	61
Township	127
Village	126
City	207
	528

More than 151,000 people are served by the new libraries. Half of the newly formed libraries are in the Chicago suburban area, and the number of people unserved in the North Suburban, DuPage and Suburban Library Systems is reduced to a little more than 500,000 of the more than two million total population, as opposed to approximately 600,000 a year ago. Since the population of the state has increased by 76,153, the result of the organization of these new libraries is that the number of people not now served by public libraries in Illinois remains more than 2,000,000.

Support of local libraries

For fiscal year 1972, public libraries in Illinois were supported by $37,031,547 from tax sources. Additional funds from fines, fees, unexpended balances, gifts, and other sources brought the library income for local libraries up to $44,649,719, of which $40,005,450 was expended. This raised the per capita income for libraries to $3.99, if taken for the entire population of the state, (11,190,029), or $5.02, if taken for the population of the state living within areas served by tax supported libraries. The increase in local library support is shown in the following table:

Table 2

	FY 1971	FY 1972
Total library income	$40,924,109	$44,649,719
Total library expenditures	$37,625,306	$40,005,450
Percapita expenditure		
For total population	$ 3.68	$ 3.99
For population with library service areas	$ 4.65	$ 5.02

Personnel

Annual reports for Illinois libraries for fiscal year 1972 show that staff employed at the local library level total 3,587.37 FTE, or one staff member for every 2489.60 of the population served by local libraries.

Materials

The addition of 1,619,842 volumes to local library collections in fiscal year 1972 brought the book stock available to local library patrons in their own libraries up to 17,228,083.

Hours of opening

During the year, 21 libraries increased their hours of opening to 20 hours or more. Of the 510 libraries in the state in 1972, 118 did not meet the minimum hours of opening of 20 hours a week, established in Illinois Library Association Public Library Standards, Measures of Quality.

Registered borrowers

The report for fiscal year 1972 shows that 3,009,115 people, or 34.26 percent of those eligible had actually registered as borrowers with their local libraries.

Library Facilities

During the year libraries in thirteen localities either built new buildings or remodeled and added to existing buildings. Four of these construction projects were partially funded by Library Services and Construction Act funds.

LIBRARY SYSTEMS

During the fiscal year 1973, library systems in the state continued to provide their services to member libraries of the system. The use of the funds provided through the Library Resources Enrichment Program added numbers of library materials (as yet unreported) to library system collections, both in the headquarters libraries and in the member library collections. Film collections, record collections, and cassettes were added to the materials available in some of the library systems where these materials had not been available, or had been available in very limited quantity. An innovative plan of service zones was adopted by the libraries in the Suburban Library System providing for the coordinated acquisition of framed art prints and cassettes - each to be located in a designated library in each zone, and with another library in each zone invited to submit a proposal to supply another service to the patrons of the libraries in its zone.

With the project of service by the system to the Illinois Department of Corrections institutions in the Bur Oak Library System area as an example, similar programs were introduced in the eight other library systems in which correctional institutions are located, with a grant from the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission and with Library Services and Construction Act funds.

The most important library legislation of the 1973 session of the General Assembly related to systems. This was the change in the system funding formula to 70 cents per capita and $25 per square mile.

RESEARCH AND REFERENCE CENTERS

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1973, the resources of the Research and Reference Centers had increased to the following totals:

	Volumes
*Chicago Public Library	4,722,057
**Illinois State Library	617,325

***University of Illinois	4,920,173
****Southern Illinois University	1,655,895

*Does not include nonbook materials

**Total items: 1,445,616 (includes federal and state documents but no microforms, films, recordings, etc.)

***Total items: 6,883,527 (includes pamphlets, micro text, musical scores, etc.)

****Includes only cataloged items.

Other Libraries

During the year, the academic libraries of the state were offered the opportunity to participate in the network for interlibrary loan. On June 30, 1973, 94 of 144 academic libraries had decided to avail themselves of this service.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

During the year numerous projects carried on by library systems, local libraries or other agencies were completed. One, the study of the audiovisual resources of the Illinois Public Library Systems, conducted by the Library Reserach Center of the University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science was completed early in the year and a workshop was held at the university to discuss the implications of the findings of the study for the development of audiovisual (especially 16mm film) service for library users of the state. The report of the study was published in Illinois Libraries for April 1973. The following programs, funded with Library Services and Construction Act grants have been completed: the programs for the disadvantaged in Rock Island, Champaign-Urbana, Peoria, and the program for the Spanish-speaking people in the Lincoln Park area of Chicago. The multi-media project, carried on in the Portage-Cragin Branch of the Chicago Public Library was also completed during the fiscal year.

NETWORKS*

The promotion and development of cooperative library networks operating regionally or statewide to provide effective coordination of library resources of public, academic, school and special libraries continues to be a subgoal of the Illinois State Library.

I. Formation of regional library councils.

The first objective for networks, that of the organization of regional library councils similar to the one in the Chicago area, has been modified. During the year the Illinois Regional Library Council has instituted a system of direct borrowing for users of the libraries of the members of the council called Infopass, and has begun to update the union list of serials of the special libraries in the region. The Illinois Regional Library Council is still developing its long range plan, and this is expected to be completed by June 1974. In the meantime, a new concept in multitype library cooperation has developed, based on a library system. During the next two years, a project to develop such cooperation in the Illinois Valley Library System will be carried on. Because of this new concept, this objective is changed to provide for experimentation with varying means of multitype library cooperation within the state. The evaluation of the system based program and the Illinois Regional Library Council will give direction for future development of cooperative activities and may result in a modification of one or the other of the two types now being carried on, or in a new form combining the best features of the two.

II. Joint programs among types of libraries.

The development of joint programs among types of libraries to serve the needs of users of at least two types of libraries, was given added incentive by testimony received at the users hearings, where much discussion centered around the need for more cooperative activities between school and public libraries.

* Refer to Illinois Libraries, November, 1972, pp. 745-748

The Goals for 1972-77 set by the Instructional Services Section of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction places high priority on "Professional interaction between media specialists in school, public, and academic libraries in all levels" and proposes to help establish cooperation between local organizations of public, academic and school media specialists as well as an annual statewide conference for all information services specialists. Because of this, the public library field must stand ready to participate in such activities and on the local level promote cooperative activities with the school libraries in each library service area.

Locations in the state should be identified where pilot projects could be developed to provide for cooperative activities between school and public libraries to demonstrate the provision of community library service utilizing the resources of both public and school libraries.

Such demonstrations must have the support and commitment of both the public library board and staff and the school board, administration and library staff. There must be agreement as to the responsibilities and duties of both kinds of libraries on the local, system, and Educational Service Region level. The first step in carrying out this objective is the addition of a school-public library consultant to the Illinois State Library Staff.

Sparked by the discussion at the conference on audiovisual services already mentioned, and by the evident need expressed in many parts of the state at the user hearings, the possibility of utilizing the interlibrary loan network for the purpose and distribution of films for both the schools and the patrons of the public libraries is being studied.

Suggestions that the film collections of local libraries and school libraries could be supplemented by the collections of the library systems and the county or regional cooperative media centers presently serving the schools, with one large central collection within the state to act as a backup source

for all film users, is one suggestion for the solution of this problem. Additional study of this problem is needed, including the need to determine what resources exist in the school oriented collections. A first step in implementing any program that might arise from this, is the employment of an audiovisual consultant at the Illinois State Library.

III. Conference on Total Access to Intellectual Resources.

Planning for this project has been carried on during the year. This invitational conference for statewide leaders will be held in November 1973. The conference will develop a plan for the achievement of total access for all the residents o the state. Subsequent to the conference, regional meeting will be held throughout the state, to replicate some of the discussion of the conference, and to gather reactions to the ideas and plan, if developed, emanating from the November conference.

IV. Expansion of the network.

The expansion of the already existing network to include libraries other than public libraries and library systems has been partially achieved. In January 1973, the network was expanded to include academic libraries in the service. Those academic libraries with fewer than 200,000 volumes use the network through the library system in which they are located, while large academic libraries may go directly to the Research and Reference Centers for interlibrary loan under the Illinois Interlibrary Loan Code. By June 30, 1973, 94 academic libraries were availing themselves of the services of the network. An evaluation of this service is being designed. It is planned that special libraries of the state will be offered the opportunity to participate in the network by November 1973, and soon thereafter, study of the means, and planning for extension of the service of the interlibrary loan network to schools will begin.

V. Educational program on network opportunities and techniques.

A start has been made on this objective: the development of educational programs on the opportunities and techniques of networking. A cassette-filmstrip

presentation is being developed to begin the educational program on the opportunities and techniques of networking. The first series consists of five separate cassette-filmstrips, each presenting a concept of interlibrary cooperation. Two additional series of cassette-filmstrips elaborating on the interlibrary cooperation concept are planned for the future, if the evaluation of this project is favorable and if funds are available.

VI. Research into means of improving cooperative activities.

The most important study of those suggested in objective VI, which is being carried on is that of the most efficient method of delivery of library materials from the Research and Reference Centers to the system headquarters initiating requests for materials. This study is expected to be completed by December 31, 1973.

VII. Special Subject Strength Study.

The study conducted by Dr. Robert B. Downs to identify special subject strengths in libraries in the state has been completed and publication is expected by January 1, 1974. This publication is entitled Guide to Illinois Library Resources.

VIII. Development of regional resource collections.

The development of resource and research collections which serve as regional resource centers, is being achieved, in part, by the continued development of the resources of the Vivian G. Harsh Collection of materials on Afro-American History and Literature at the Hall Branch of the Chicago Public Library. These materials, except for those of great rarity or great value, are available to library users of the state through library systems by interlibrary loan under the conditions of the regional interlibrary loan code adopted by the library systems and the Research and Reference Centers.

A committee will be appointed to investigate the opportunities that exist to widen the scope of the materials available in the Research and Reference Centers by development of a coordinated acquisition program.

on a statewide basis for cultural, educational and economic development of the state and the inhabitants of the state is to be achieved through three major objectives with programs designed to further these objectives. The major objectives are:

I. To continue to strengthen and stimulate the library system both at the system headquarters level and at the member library level.

II. To reduce the number of people in the state who are not now served by tax supported libraries.

III. To improve the physical facilities of libraries.

I. The first priority of these objectives is the strengthening and stimulating of library systems. In some cases steps may be taken to achieve this objective by a program carried on by the library system for the benefit of all the libraries in the system. In other cases, a program may be carried on by a member library in order to make it a stronger member of the library system.

A. Strengthening systems.

One program to strengthen library systems at both the system and the member library level, was the Library Resources Enrichment Program, carried on during fiscal year 1973. This program allotted 10 cents per capita to library systems for the purchase of a new adult nonfiction library materials and 5 cents per capita to member libraries for the purchase of similar materials. Although the evaluation of this project has not been completed, every sign indicates that the project was a success and additional funds, when available, will be used for this purpose.

Another such program (one which is still being carried on), is the establishment in most of the library systems of Children's Book Reviewing and Examination Centers, designed to aid in the selection of children's books for local library collections.

The committee will study the current acquisitions policies, the report of the special subject strengths study noted above, and will make recommendations to the Research and Reference Centers for implementation.

Based on an investigation of items not being filled by the network, the collection strengths revealed by the Down's study and the findings of the earlier Westat study, discussion will begin this year to explore the possibilities of adding special libraries or libraries with special collections as resource libraries for the network.

IX. Provision of an automated data base.

The provision of an automated data base of the holdings of the Illinois State Library and other collections in MARC format, is not yet underway. The report, The Analysis of Illinois State Library Requirements for the Creation of MARC and Related Machine Readable Files, of a study carried on by Becker and Hayes has been received. Its implementation is being studied by the Illinois State Library and the Management Information Systems Division of the Secretary of State's Office at the present time.

In addition, a proposal is being prepared for submission to the Board of Higher Education and to the Illinois State Library for a project to be carried on by the four Research and Reference Centers to experiment with the MARC data base at the Ohio College Library Center for the cataloging and processing services offered by that institution.

Study and investigations will be carried on to identify suitable uses of data processing equipment for small and medium sized libraries and attempts will be made to identify suitable equipment for such use.

PUBLIC LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT*

The subgoal, the promotion, support, and implementation of library services

* Refer to Illinois Libraries, November 1972, pp. 748-753.

A new program, to be implemented in 1974, will provide to the library systems funds for the addition of professional staff for reference or other necessary services on a joint system-state agency support basis. The program is planned to expand services to the public at system and local library levels.

During 1974, a new project, to work with library systems to develop long-range plans will begin. The procedures and techniques for the development of these plans based on the CIPP (Context, Input, Process, Product) model has been developed by staff of the Library Research Center and a team from the center will work with each library system in the development of its plan. The plans, in addition to their value to the library systems, will contribute to the input for future revisions of the long-range program for the Illinois State Library. It is anticipated that the completion of this project will require at least two years.

B. Library service programs.

Programs of service to the library public were carried on during the year in a variety of ways.

1. Programs of service to the economically and culturally disadvantaged were carried on in Peoria, Champaign-Urbana, Rock Island, Rockford, Chicago and East St. Louis. The Rockford program and the East St. Louis program are not yet completed. Final evaluations have not yet been made of the other programs which have been completed. Two new programs are beginning in this area. One, a program for the community of Robbins, a southern suburb of Chicago, will, it is hoped, result in the formation of a library district in that area. The second program is a program for the Spanish speaking people living in the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago, and is being carried on in a community center in cooperation with El Centro de la Causa. This program is jointly funded by Library Services and Construction Act funds through the Illinois State

Library, by Higher Education Act funds from the U.S. Office of Education, and by the Chicago Public Library. Proposals for new programs of this nature will be sought, as a matter of national priority.

2. No program specifically for the underemployed or unemployed were undertaken during the year, although some of the services in the above programs for the economically disadvantaged addressed this segment of the population.

3. In order to improve the quality of library service and to encourage local libraries to strive to meet the Illinois Library Association standards set forth in Measures of Quality, a series of six workshops planned and presented in cooperation with the Illinois Library Association, on the development of goals and objectives were held in May 1973. A second series, emphasizing another area of Measures of Quality is being planned for early spring, 1974.

4. The provision of system based library service to the institutionalized was the objective of a program begun in fiscal year 1972 and continued in fiscal year 1973 with the Correctional Institutions in the Bur Oak Library System. As a result of this, and of a grant from the Illinois Law Enforcement Commission, similar programs have begun in the nine other library systems which have correctional institutions within their borders. An attempt will be made in the 1974 session of the General Assembly to secure the appropriation of state funds to continue the provision of these services. Only one program has been started in the institutions of the Department of Mental Health. This too, is a system based service and is carried on by the Shawnee Library System in the A.L. Bowen Children's Center at Harrisburg. An attempt will be made to secure the appropriation of state funds for the continuation of this service and the extension of similar services to

other institutions in this department. Provision of the entire range of library services, professional as well as patient, will be provided under this program. No programs have yet been provided for the institutions supervised by the department of Child and Family Services. The objective for fiscal year 1974 is to develop for each institution, in cooperation with institution personnel, a written statement of goals and objectives with a plan for accomplishment for library service in each institution.

A similar program is being carried on by the Chicago Public Library to provide library service to the inmates of the Cook County Department of Corrections facilities in Chicago. This program will provide traditional library service to the inmates as well as materials to enable them to increase their employment and educational skills while in the correctional facilities.

5. During the year, the program of service to the blind and physically handicapped has been strengthened and improved. Workshops have been held to acquaint the personnel working in the subregional distribution centers, located in library systems, with the new developments in the program. Additional staff has been added to the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped housed at the Hild Branch of the Chicago Public Library and new methods and techniques have been developed to improve the provision of service to the user. The responsibility for the distribution and maintenance of the talking book machines has been transferred to the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped from the Department of Children and Family Services. A project to provide a cassette-slide story of the service which is available is being produced to aid in the publicity for this program and to locate new users. The Lewis and Clark Library System has acquired the equipment to produce

cassette copies of books from discs. The production of these cassettes is expected to start in fiscal year 1974. In addition, The Johanna Bureau produces cassette titles of materials needed by public library users, when the material is not presently available. The Johanna Bureau contracts to do this on a cost per item basis.

C. Manpower

Ten minority students with backgrounds in community leadership have been awarded grants to attend library school through the Minorities Manpower Project administered by the American Library Association.

Ten scholarships were awarded during this current year under the Illinois State Library Scholarship program to eight Illinois and two out-of-state scholars for graduate library study and two years service in Illinois public libraries. Of the 1972 scholarships awarded, six are already placed in public library positions. Four previously graduated winners also obtained positions.

Rosary College sponsored a pilot institute in continuing education for public librarians serving grades six through ten in coordination with the Executive Board of the Children's Section of the Illinois Library Association for personnel from the metropolitan Chicago area. There were 33 persons registered with a range of backgrounds in adult services administration and children's work. Professional and clerical personnel in libraries working with children were eligible without regard to specific educational requirements. A preliminary report indicates satisfaction with the results for participants, libraries, and college faculty. A final evaluation is to be received later this year.

In order to evaluate the ISL Scholarship Program under which 151 persons have received awards since 1961, it is anticipated that a research study will be proposed to determine a basis for continuance or change in the program. A memo for review was submitted by the Manpower Consultant in a preliminary recommendation that the direction of the program be changed to acknowledge the need for on-the-job

experience expressed both by prospective students and supervisors.

The proposed research study hopes to examine further factors for determining: 1) whether or not the Scholarship program has been successful in meeting stated objectives; and 2) whether or not a modified program, such as an intership program, a work study program or a fellowship program should be substituted or added.

The Illinois Library Task Analysis Project, a research project funded by the Illinois State Library and supervised jointly by the Illinois Library Association, the Library Education Division and the Library Administration Division of the American Library Association has been completed. The report, Personnel Utilization in Libraries: a systems approach, will be published by the American Library Association early in 1974.

D. Increase in public awareness of libraries

No public awareness program was conducted on a statewide level. Since the need to promote more awareness of the services of libraries was one of the frequently voiced ideas in the library users hearings, additional efforts will be made during 1974 and 1975 to produce workshops and public relations programs at all levels of library service.

E. Professional development

A workshop on United Nations Documents was held during the year. A workshop on maps and a regional workshop on Federal Documents are planned for the autumn of 1973. Serving in a coordinating and advisory capacity, the Illinois State Library Professional Development Consultant assisted with a five-system workshop for new library trustees and with the series of workshops presented in cooperation with the Illinois Library Association on goals and objectives. In addition, planning help was given in developing the workshops held in December 1972 for the system personnel involved in working with the subregional blind and physically handicapped services programs and for the workshops held in the spring of 1973 for the personnel involved in the work of interlibrary loan in the Research

and Referen e Centers. Planning help was also given in the workshops held for library system personnel working in the correctional institutions.

Assistance is presently being given in planning a series of workshops on reference service to be held in the DuPage Library System in 1973 and 1974, and an Adult Education activity to be carried on in the Great River Library System.

A program is being developed and will be implemented in 1974 to aid library system personnel to become more proficient in the area of producing effective professional development programs for the staffs of the member libraries. An example of the presentation of workshops and conferences of interest to a wide spectrum of the library community is the cosponsorship with the University of Illinois, Graduate School of Library Science, of the Allerton Conference to be held in November 1973. The conference will be on CATV and its implications for libraries. This cosponsorship will provide the registration fees for 42 Illinois libraries to attend the conference. Considerable interest has been expressed in workshops on public relations for libraries. Consideration is being given to the development of workshops in this area for presentation in the near future.

F. Research

The Library Research Center at the University of Illinois has been working on the evaluation of two projects carried on by library systems, namely, the Books-by-Mail project carried on by the Bur Oak, Corn Belt, and Rolling Prairie Library Systems, and the Children's Book Review and Examination Centers located in 15 of the library systems. In addition, the Library Research Center is conducting a study of the Library Technical Assistants programs in the Community Colleges of Illinois, is compiling a bibliography of Oral History, and continues the Bibliography on Interlibrary Cooperation. All of these projects with the exception of the last one are to be completed during fiscal year 1974.

One system based research study is being carried on in the Suburban Library

System to determine the library needs of the residents of the library system for their professional, business and economic needs. The report of this study is to be made in the fall of 1973.

G. Cooperation with Illinois Library Association.

One project in cooperation with the Illinois Library Association during fiscal year 1973, has been the co-sponsorship of workshops to enable libraries to meet ILA standards, discussed under projects for the unserved or the inadequately served, above. The Illinois State Library cooperated with the National Library Week Committee of ILA in planning and carrying out Legislation Day, in Springfield during National Library Week.

The close work with the Legislative-Library Development Committee will continue during the year in the development and promotion of library legislation, and in the study of funding for local libraries.

H. Access to library service.

Reciprocal borrowing agreements between library systems has progressed during the year. At the present time 265 libraries in 15 library systems have agreed to reciprocal borrowing across library system lines.

I. Equalization program.

Under the provisions of the Library Systems Act, a program of equalization grants is carried on annually to libraries which, if levying at the rate of .06 percent, do not produce $1.50. Although state funds are appropriated for this purpose, during fiscal year 1973 the amount was insufficient to meet the cost of the eligible grant requests and Library Services and Construction Act funds were also used to make these grants. Reduced assessments in depressed areas resulted in lower income for libraries and fifty-two libraries received equalization grants.

J. Illinois Library Materials Processing Center.

The project, partially funded with Library Services and Construction Act funds, provides ordering, cataloging and processing service to 21 libraries

directly, 165 libraries and related units through four library systems, 10 library systems for their headquarters collections and 2 institutional libraries. As many as 18,000 volumes have been shipped a month from the center for a total yearly production of approximately 175,000 volumes. The center is equipped to serve other than public libraries and is eager to render this service.

II. Universally available and universally supported library service.

A. Project Plus

During the fiscal year 1973, six successful referenda were held in Project Plus demonstration areas, thus resulting in the formation of public library districts with adequate property valuation to support library service capable of meeting library standards. In addition, the success of these projects stimulated the formation of four or five other successful library district which did not meet the criteria for Project Plus grants, generally because of small populations. Encouragement will continue to be given to the formation of library districts under the provisions of this project, which has as its goal the inclusion in library service areas, the people of the state not served by tax supported libraries.

B. Prevention of inadequate libraries inadequately funded.

No legislation was introduced to prevent the formation of libraries too small or too poor to provide adequate library service.

C. Study of the problems of library finance.

As noted earlier, in the closing days of the session, the House of the General Assembly passed HB 456 authorizing a study by the Revenue Committee of the funding of local libraries in Illinois to determine a way of improving the funding for these libraries. This study will be carried out by a subcommittee of the Revenue Committee and hearings will be held to obtain input from trustees, librarians, and the public.

III. Improvement of physical facilities.

In spite of the fact that no Library Services and Construction Act, Title

II funds were available in fiscal year 1973, 15 libraries indicated an interest in applying for such funds if they became available. The need for funds to be available to local libraries on a matching basis for the purpose of library construction was expressed during the library user hearings. Consideration of all aspects of library funding will naturally be considered in the Revenue Committee Study, referred to above.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY*

The promotion, support, implementation, and maintenance of library services on a state level for all state officers, offices, the General Assembly, the Judiciary, and all state agencies, bodies, and commissions is the subgoal toward which the Library Operations Group of the Illinois State Library strives.

I. Development of the information service for state government.

During fiscal year 1973, the public service unit compiled and edited a state statistical abstract, provided a terminal hookup to the computerized system for status of bills, and greatly expanded the use of its PICC (Periodical Index Contents Copying) service. During fiscal year 1974, the complete records of the 1970 Census of Population and Housing will be acquired on microfiche from magnetic tape, and access to this information will be provided by microfiche readers. The second of the projected annual statistical abstracts of Illinois will be edited and published in fiscal year 1974. Plans are being made to provide the information available through the Management Information Division Status of Bills System to local libraries either through a typewriter terminal hookup or by a "hot line" telephone line directly to the State Library. The establishment of an information desk in the capitol and an information center in or near the State Office Building in Chicago are also being considered.

II. Development of library materials collection.

The development of the library materials collection of the Illinois State Library exceeded the goal of the acquisition of 32,000 volumes for fiscal year

1973 by adding 44,795 volumes representing 34,068 titles to the collection during the year.

In order to increase the depth of the collection of the Illinois state Library, the goals for collection development are revised to require the acquisition of stated numbers of titles rather than volumes. (34,000 titles in FY 1974, 36,000 titles in FY 1975, and 35,000 titles in 1976.)

During fiscal year 1974, it may not be possible to reach the goal for the acquisition of titles (34,000) because of additional budget cuts.

The collection development policy was revised, updated, and published in the November 1972, Illinois Libraries.

III. Illinois State Library Building.

The third objective, the provision of a new state library building, has not progressed during the year because of the decision of the new administration not to seek appropriations to support this activity. Efforts will be made to obtain foundation support for a new building to supplement support to be provided by appropriations.

IV. Publications program.

The publications program has increased its activities with the publication of Illinois Nodes, a twice monthly news publication distributed to all libraries and library systems.

Illinois Libraries, the regular publication of the Illinois State Library, was the recipient of the H. W. Wilson Library Periodical Award. This award was presented at the American Library Association Annual Conference on June 29, 1973. In addition to this publication, during the year the Publications Unit published In Our Opinion, the testimony presented to the National Commission on Libraries and Informational Sciences in Chicago in September 1972, The Drug Crisis, and Public Library Abstracts.

V. Staff Development.

The development of staff, the fifth objective, has been set back by the

reduction of the staff from 152 to 142 positions. Major vacancies, both professional and clerical, exist. Several important positions, such as Systems Analyst, the Research and Statistics Specialists, and Consultant for service to the unserved, will be filled early in fiscal year 1974.

VI. Development of the Illinois State Library as a Research and Reference Center.

Steps have been taken in the accomplishment of the sixth objective, the development of the Illinois State Library as a Research and Reference Center by the addition to the collection noted above, and by the availability to the library systems of all the services of the public service department noted above except the PICC (Periodical Indexing and Contents Copying) service. Workshops were held for all the systems on Research and Reference Center procedures and related problems. During fiscal year 1974, additional efforts will be made to achieve a greater degree of coordination with other Research and Reference Centers, by scheduling workshops every six months. An additional TWX receiver will be installed during the year to handle the heavy traffice from library systems.